All the State Governments bordering Nepal including Uttar Pradesh had submitted a proposal for strengthening border policing and intelligence infrastructure in their States. Since the items covered in the Action Plans were almost identical to the items included in the existing scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF), it was decided that requirements of the State Governments concerned would be met from the funds being provided annually under MPF scheme.

Escaping of mastermind of Ayodhya attack

1816. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations into the Ayodhya Shrine attempted attack case reveal that the mastermind of the fidayeens, the Commander of Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has now crossed over to Pakistan;

(b) whether this reported escape of the king-pin of the attack to a safer place across the border is likely to hamper further investigations;

(c) whether the fidayeens had visited Akbarpur considered a safe haven because of well entrenched network of ISI-Lashkar-e-Tayyeba operating from there for sometime; and

(d) what is the present status of investigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Investigations are still in progress in the case of terrorist attack on Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Complex at Ayodhya on 5th July, 2005. The investigations undertaken so far have revealed that the terrorists made a preparatory stay for sometime at Akbarpur prior to the attack. Five persons have so far been arrested in this case. The links of the terrorists with their mentors from across the border cannot be ruled out.

Involvement of SIMI in Ayodhya attack

† 1817. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any evidence of involvement of the banned outfit SIMI in Ayodhya bomb attack;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.